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## DOC 2019-05 Proposal to Suspend Master's Mathematics Education

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## **PROPOSAL TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

**TITLE:** Proposal to Suspend Master's Mathematics Education

**SUBMITTED BY:** College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Mathematics

**DATE:** April 26, 2019

**ACTION:** Legislative Action

**RATIONALE:** The Master's of Mathematic Education was envisioned primarily as a vehicle that would provide licensed professional educators with a graduate degree. At the time of the concentration's greatest popularity, graduate degrees were a key part of the seniority rubric used by school districts in Ohio; possessing a Master's level degree had better prospects for professional advancement than those who only had Bachelor's level degrees. Over time, that requirement has changed and/or been eliminated in many cases. As such, the program has become less popular, leading to a general decline in its enrollment.

## Proposal to Suspend Master's Mathematics Education

### **1. Rationale for the suspension of the Program:**

The Master's of Mathematic Education was envisioned primarily as a vehicle that would provide licensed professional educators with a graduate degree. At the time of the concentration's greatest popularity, graduate degrees were a key part of the seniority rubric used by school districts in Ohio; possessing a Master's level degree had better prospects for professional advancement than those who only had Bachelor's level degrees. Over time, that requirement has changed and/or been eliminated in many cases. As such, the program has become less popular, leading to a general decline in its enrollment.

### **2. Description of the effect on other degree programs and actions to be taken:**

Discontinuing this program will have no impact on other degree programs. The program is a summer-only program, and its courses were taught by faculty who otherwise do not teach in the summer term. The effect of discontinuing this program will be to free up faculty for other priorities they wish to pursue.

### **3. Faculty Members that teach in this program:**

The only faculty members who have taught in the program in the last few years are Dr. Becky Krakowski and Dr. Jonathan Brown.

### **4. Enrollment in the program over the last five years, by year:**

See separate Excel file. I cannot find the first three names in DegreeWorks. It seems none of the students have actually completed the degree.

### **5. Courses in the degree program and service courses that will be not offered during the suspension period:**

All courses needed for the students who are still in the program can be offered or replaced by alternate courses for the students who are still in the program.

### **6. Effects of suspension on current faculty and staff that support this program:**

None. This is a summer-only program. Faculty will be able to focus on other priorities during the summer.

### **7. Effects of suspension on current and prospective students; consultations with Enrollment Management:**

Current students: We will offer students who have not completed all mathematics courses the option of taking these courses as independent study. No new students will be accepted into the program.

- 8. Disposition of facilities, library and information resources, and other resources used to support the program:**
  - This has no impact on resources
- 9. Plan and timetable to be used to review program status and to decide whether to discontinue or reactivate the program at the end of the suspension period.**

The Department of Mathematics anticipates a suspension of no more than five years. If current legislation around career advancement changes, then the department would be prepared to offer the MME degree again.